

Present: Hans Brandal, Vice-Chair; John Coney; Ray Day, Jr.; John Jensen; Sandy Paul-Lyle; Holly Plackett; Joan Sells

Excused: Andy Bennett; Dave Elliott; Anirudh Sahni, Chair; Mike Taylor

Absent: Dwight Baker

Guests: Carla Saulter; Tina Shereen

Staff: Barbara de Michele, Community Relations Planner; Bob Sahm, Supervisor of Accessible Services; David Hull, Supervisor of Service Planning

Vice Chair Hans Brandal opened the meeting at 6:05 p.m. He introduced Carla Saulter and Tina Shereen, both waiting to be confirmed as TAC members by the King County Council.

Accessible Services

Sahm gave a comprehensive overview of the Accessible Services section and answered numerous questions from the TAC. Accessible Services is responsible for the management of the Regional Reduced Fare Permit and taxi scrip; travel training, and ACCESS vans (for people with disabilities who cannot ride fixed routes). He outlined many of the legal constraints facing Metro in providing the service under the Americans with Disabilities Act, as well as the “nuts and bolts” of day-to-day service. As with other Metro services, the projected demand for accessible services is also growing year by year, with 1,100,000 rides projected for next year. TAC members asked numerous questions and expressed appreciation for Sahm’s presentation.

Transit Now Update

Hull reviewed the Transit Now election results, with a 56% favorable passage rate. In 2007, riders will experience immediate upgrades of service to the routes 8, 44, 101, 120, 140, 194, 234 and 245. In addition, Metro will be completing an extensive Eastside outreach that will be implemented in 2007 or early 2008, and beginning work on Rapid Ride for implementation beginning in 2009. The package of proposals will be implemented over the next ten years, opening many avenues of opportunity to increase bus ridership and services. Metro will be writing an update of the Six-Year Plan in 2007 which will complement the Transit Now plan.

TAC Legislative Forum

In preparation for the TAC Legislative Forum scheduled for Friday, December 1, TAC members proposed the following questions:

- 1) Should the legislature go back and change legislation to have one question on the ballot, instead of two linked questions?
- 2) Should the legislature de-link the RTID and Sound Transit II ballot measures?
- 3) Washington State’s senior Senator (Patty Murray) will chair the transportation sub-committee of the Senate Ways and Means. Will this increased “clout” effect our state’s mega-project list?

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- 4) Would you be in favor of changing WSDOT regulations so that construction mitigation dollars for the Alaskan Way Viaduct and SR-520 could be spent on transit?
- 5) Is the County ready to get into the ferry business? Why or why not?

Retreat Discussion

In a brief discussion of the January TAC retreat, Sandy Paul-Lyle suggested that the group meet at the Kent Station at Green River Community College. The group also expressed interest in having General Manager Kevin Desmond and King County Councilmember Reagan Dunn in attendance. Coney also suggested that a future Legislative Forum might feature the new House Transportation chair.

Letter to Jan Drago

John Coney will draft and Holly Plackett will edit a letter to Jan Drago, Chair of the City of Seattle Transportation Committee, regarding bus shelter advertising. Jensen suggested that we include information about the bus shelter advertising program in Vancouver BC in the letter.

Adjournment

Brandal adjourned the meeting at 8:20 p.m.